

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 were rejected as unpatentable over LEWIS 6,442,169 in view of LUDWIG et al. 6,487,218. The independent claims have been amended and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The Official Action acknowledges that LEWIS does not disclose the limitation of reserving the internet protocol address before authentication of the subscriber terminal, and relies on LUDWIG et al. for the suggestion to modify LEWIS to include this feature. LEWIS discloses a system that appears to be similar to that of the admitted prior art of Figures 2-3. As noted at column 30, lines 46-48, the server authenticates the call and assigns the IP address. The Official Action points to column 11, lines 26-31 of LUDWIG et al. for the suggestion to reserve the IP address before authentication.

LUDWIG et al. disclose a method of accelerating link establishment by using "masked packets." The system takes advantage of particular parts of the packets that can be used in a manner that is consistent with normal operation, but faster. As explained as columns 7-8, the masked packets are packets in which certain protocols are assigned values that are allowed to be contained in the protocol fields of PPP packets. As further explained at column 10, beginning at line 23 (with reference to Figure 1), the terminal equipment will receive (step S1) a link up message from the mobile station indicating that a circuit

switched link has been established. Thereafter, (step S2) a standard LCP packet that conforms to PPP standards is sent with at least one masked packet. The use of the masked packets from this point on permits the rest of operation to proceed in parallel (see also column 8, lines 50-61). The parallel operation is apparently the key to the higher speed operation because it avoids the numerous round trips of the conventional protocol as shown in Figure 4. That is, once the communication link has been established, the rest of the communication uses parallel exchanges made available by the use of masked packets to accelerate the link establishment.

The statement in LUDWIG et al. at column 11, lines 26-31 now can be put in its proper context. In LUDWIG et al., the communication link is established first (similar to steps S31-S36 in Figure 2 herein) and then the masked protocols permit the remaining steps to be processed in parallel. Specifically, since the various actions (e.g., steps S40-45 in Figure 2 herein) can be taken in parallel it appears possible that an IP address could be assigned before authentication. However, LUDWIG et al. does not disclose or suggest assigning an IP address before authentication during the initial exchange of an initial address message (IAM) and an address complete message (ACM) between the subscriber terminal and remote access server (steps S31-36 in Figure 2 herein).

By contrast, the amended independent claims provide that the remote access server receives a call from the subscriber terminal via the subscriber exchange and permits the resource control server to reserve the internet protocol address during an initial exchange of an initial address message and an address complete message between the subscriber terminal and remote access server before authentication of the subscriber terminal on the basis of information whether or not there is any internet protocol address to be assigned to the subscriber terminal, and assigns the internet protocol address reserved in the resource control server to the subscriber terminal when the subscriber terminal is later authenticated. This is illustrated in the present application by comparing Figure 2 (Prior Art) to Figure 6. As claimed herein, the reservation of the IP address occurs during the initial exchange of an initial address message (IAM) and an address complete message (ACM) between the subscriber terminal and remote access server.

Since the proposed combination of references does not disclose or suggest reserving the internet protocol address during an initial exchange of an initial address message and an address complete message between the subscriber terminal and remote access server before authentication of the subscriber terminal, the amended claims avoid the rejection under §103.

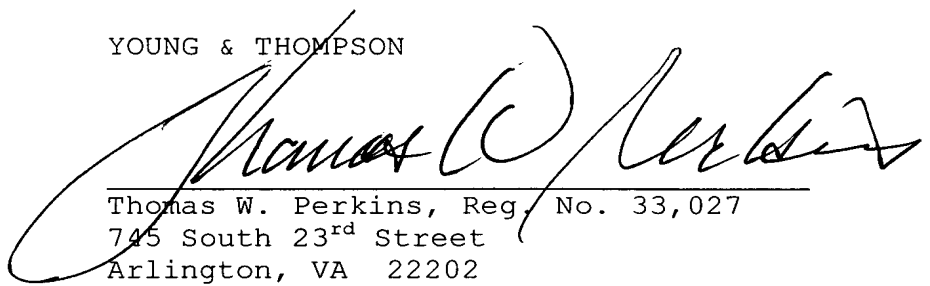
In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been

placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Thomas W. Perkins', is written over the typed name and address.

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